

REMARKS

Applicant cancels claims 10-17 without prejudice or disclaimer, and adds new claims 18-21. Therefore, claims 18-21 are now all the claims pending in the application.

Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims 18-21 are fully supported by the original disclosure: the new independent claim 18 parallels the original claims 10-13, and new dependent claims 19-21 parallel the original claims 14, 16 and 17, respectively.

Claims 18-21 are believed to be in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, and are patentably distinct from the references cited by the Examiner.

Applicant notes that, independent claim 18 recites a communication system between a portable unit and a communication terminal, wherein the portable unit and the communication terminal can exchange data with each other, the portable unit comprising, *inter alia*, a single electro-acoustic transducer for receiving and transmitting data and for generating an alarm sound (see claim 18).

Thus, one of the non-limiting, exemplary advantages of Applicant's claimed invention is to provide a communication system comprising a portable device, such as a watch, which is capable of transmitting and receiving data using its own electro-acoustic transducer which is usually only used to generate an alarm signal. Consequently, there is no need to modify the portable device or to add specific components.

The above-noted features are neither described, taught, nor suggested, by the references cited by the Examiner, considered independently from one another or in any reasonable combination.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. APPLN. NO. 10/031,617

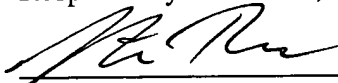
Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the rejections, and to find the application to be in condition for allowance with new claims 18-21, however, if for any reason the Examiner feels that the application is not now in condition for allowance, he is respectfully requested to **call the undersigned attorney** to discuss any unresolved issues and to expedite the disposition of the application.

Filed concurrently herewith is a Petition (with fee) for an Extension of Time of one month. Applicant hereby petitions for any extension of time which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, and any required fee for such extension is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Also, Applicant submits herewith a Verified English Language translation of Applicant's priority document EP App. No. 99115319.8 filed on August 3, 1999.

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 and/or § 1.17 necessary to keep this application pending in the Patent and Trademark Office or credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

Respectfully submitted,


John H. Mion
for Registration No. 18,879

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-3213
(202) 663-7901

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: January 30, 2004